

REMARKS

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1-10 are pending. Claims 1, 2, 3, and 7 are amended, and claims 8-12 are added. Claim 1 is independent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein.

Examiner Interview

If, during further examination of the present application, any further discussion with the Applicants' Representative would advance the prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Carl T. Thomsen, at 1-703-208-4030 (direct line) at his convenience.

Drawings

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner indicate whether or not the drawings have been accepted in the next official communication.

Claim for Priority

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner acknowledge the Applicants' claim for foreign priority in the next official communication.

Amendments to the Specification

The Abstract of the Disclosure has been amended merely to place it in a form complying with USPTO Rules. No new matter has been added.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the last full paragraph of page 1 of the originally filed disclosure in combination with Isakov et al. (U.S. 4,069,823). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amendments to Independent Claim 1

While not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance prosecution of the present application, independent claim 1 has been amended herein to recite a combination of elements directed to a medical instrument, including *inter alia*

“a laser generator for emitting light,

a circular lightproof system installed on an output light path,

a control circuit,

a cabinet which houses the laser generator, the circular lightproof system, and the control circuit; and

an angular rotation expander which projects upwardly from the cabinet for adjusting a height and an angle of the light outputted at an end of the output light path relative to a position and orientation of the cabinet.

By contrast, with the CN 9411755.6 instrument, the entire instrument must be moved in order to adjust the height and angle of the light outputted.

As can be seen in FIGS. 2 and 18 of the Isakov et al. reference, this document discloses a complicated apparatus including

a) a laser 1 in cabinet 4 resting on a surface,

b) a scanning device 9 mounted on stand 114 resting on the surface adjacent to cabinet 4, or adjustably suspended from the ceiling,

c) a light guide 5 extending substantially horizontally between the cabinet 4 and the scanning device 9,

d) a barrel 8 fixed to a lower side of scanning device 9 and flexible light guide 22 suspended from a lower side of the scanning device 9 for focusing the radiation of the laser 1 downwardly onto the operations area 7 on surgical table 121.

As can be seen, the output light path of the Isakov et al. device is adjustable, but is completely different from that disclosed in **independent claim 1**.

Thus, Isakov et al. cannot make up for the deficiencies of the disclosure on page 1 of the present application.

At least for the reasons explained above, the Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of elements as set forth in **independent claim 1** is not disclosed or made obvious by the combination prior art of record, including page 1 of the present application and Isakov et al.

Therefore, **independent claim 1** is in condition for allowance.

Dependent Claims

The Examiner will note that dependent claims 2, 3, and 7 have been amended, and dependent claims 8-12 have been added to set forth additional novel features of the invention.

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All dependent claims are in condition for allowance due to their dependency from allowable independent claims, or due to the additional novel features set forth therein.

All pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

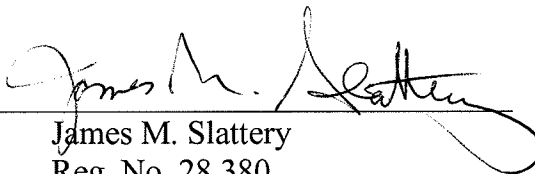
All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and that the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, he is invited to telephone Carl T. Thomsen (Reg. No. 50,786) at (703) 208-4030(direct line).

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 28, 2010

By 
James M. Slattery
Reg. No. 28,380

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road, Suite 100E
P. O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

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Attachment: Revised Abstract of the Disclosure (Clean copy)